

What is claimed is:

1 1. An organic EL device comprising:
2 a lower electrode formed on a substrate;
3 an organic EL layer formed on the lower electrode;
4 an upper electrode formed on the organic EL layer;
5 a sealing member for sealing said lower electrode,
6 organic EL layer and upper electrode on said substrate so that
7 they are covered with the sealing member, wherein said sealing
8 member is made of an aluminum material coated with an insulating
9 layer in its inner surface.

1 2. An organic EL device according to claim 1, wherein said
2 aluminum material is a flexible aluminum sheet.

1 3. An organic EL device according to claim 1, wherein said
2 insulating layer is an aluminum oxide layer formed by anodic
3 oxidation of said aluminum material.

1 4. An organic EL device according to claim 1, wherein said
2 insulating layer is a porous aluminum oxide layer.

2ub B2 1 5. An organic EL device according to claim 3, wherein said
2 aluminum sheet is formed in such a manner that a surface of said
3 aluminum oxide layer is subjected to gas flow-out treatment in

4 vacuum, and thereafter said lower electrode, organic EL layer and
5 upper electrode are sealed on the substrate in an atmosphere of
6 inert gas.

1 6. A method of manufacturing an organic EL device
2 comprising the steps of:
3 forming a lower electrode formed on a substrate;
4 forming an organic EL layer on the lower electrode;
5 forming an upper electrode on the organic EL layer to
6 provide the organic EL device;
7 preparing an aluminum material coated with an insulating
8 layer in at least its inner surface; and
9 sealing said organic EL device so that it is covered with
10 said aluminum material.

1 7. A method of manufacturing an organic EL device according
2 to claim 6, wherein
3 said step of preparing the aluminum material comprises
4 the steps of:
5 making anodic oxidation to form an aluminum oxide layer
6 on a surface of a flexible aluminum sheet; and
7 removing gas contained within said aluminum oxide layer,
8 and
9 said step of sealing said organic EL device comprises the
10 step of:

11 fixing said aluminum sheet with the gas removed on a
12 surface of said substrate in an atmosphere of inert gas or in
13 vacuum.

1 8. A method of manufacturing an organic EL device according
2 to claim 1, wherein said step of removing gas is to heat the
3 aluminum sheet with the aluminum oxide layer for several-60
4 minutes at 60-300 °C in vacuum.

1 9. A method of manufacturing an organic EL device according
2 to claim 7, wherein said step of making anodic oxidation is to
3 form a porous aluminum oxide layer; and
4 said step of removing gas is to heat said aluminum sheet
5 in vacuum so that impurities contained in pores of said porous
6 aluminum oxide layer are discharged.

1 10. A method of manufacturing an organic EL device according
2 to claim 7, wherein
3 said step of sealing said organic EL device comprises the steps
4 of:

5 mounting said organic EL device and aluminum sheet in a
6 sealing chamber and once heating them at room temperature- 150
7 °C in vacuum;

8 introducing inert gas into the sealing chamber; and
9 fixing said aluminum sheet to said substrate through an

10 adhesive and heating it.

1 11. A method of manufacturing an organic EL device according
2 to claim 7, wherein said inert gas is argon gas.

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11. A method of manufacturing an organic EL device according to claim 7, wherein said inert gas is argon gas.